



Area and County Developments

NORTH CENTRAL IDAHO

Clearwater, Idaho, Latah, Lewis and Nez Perce counties

CLEARWATER COUNTY

- The Idaho Department of Labor office in Orofino hosted the Clearwater Business Committee's February employer seminar on safety and security in the workplace. The seminar showed how to prevent customer conflicts from escalating, plan for employee safety and assess business needs for security systems products.

IDAHO AND LEWIS COUNTIES

- The Northwest Area Foundation recently named Framing Our Community Inc. of Elk City a 2008 Great Strides Award winner for a cutting-edge initiative that uses forest restoration to promote economic development. The award is given for innovation to reduce poverty in the long run. Up to four communities receive a Great Stride Award of \$100,000 each. Framing Our Community plans to use the money for a variety of projects including leadership training for non-profit boards, small business courses and upgraded office technology.

Elk City, an unincorporated community of about 500 residents 50 miles east of Grangeville in the heart of the Nez Perce National Forest, faced the loss of its largest employer, a sawmill, in the late 1990s, prompting creating of the organization. Refusing to give up their rural way of the life, its members used wood from diseased, dead and downed trees and turned it into value-added products. Thinning out the ravaged trees reduces hazardous fuels, which in turn helps restore the forest environment. In partnership with state and federal land managers, tribal governments and private landowners, Framing Our Community helped shift Elk City from an extraction-based economy to a restoration-based one. In addition, it created a small business incubator that promotes entrepreneurship through training, support and e-commerce. Now, the organization is helping other communities make the same transition.

Framing Our Community currently is working on a biomass cogeneration facility feasibility study. Biomass takes three forms — thermal, electric and biofu-

els. The potential uses include local manufacturing; heating small kilns, buildings or greenhouses; powering operations on site; selling by-products from the cogeneration process and selling excess electric power to a utility.

- The dramatic reduction in U.S. housing starts over the last two years has depressed lumber prices. In the first week of February, the Random Lengths composite price for a thousand board feet of framing lumber fell to \$238. In the same week in 2006, it had been \$384. Low lumber prices have forced many mills throughout the Northwest to layoff workers, temporarily shut down or cut hours. Three Rivers Timber in Kamiah recently eliminated eight hours from each of its 40-hour shifts. Bennett Forest Industries in Grangeville has made some reductions in force during the last 20 months. In February, Bennett Lumber Products cut hours of operation at its Princeton mill from two 50-hour shifts to two 32-hour shifts and laid off almost half the crew at its mill at the Port of Wilma, across the Snake River from Clarkston, Wash.
- Nez Perce, a city of 514 in Lewis County, soon will break ground on a new community center and library to replace its aging library. The new \$350,000 building will only cost \$200,000 because of hundreds of donated hours of labor from community volunteers. The main contractor is Mark Bovey of Craigmont. The new library on Main Street will be three times larger, allowing it to triple its book holdings and host community meetings. It will have a fireplace, air conditioning and Internet access for the public.
- The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Rural Development office in Grangeville closed March 25. It had served Clearwater, Idaho and Lewis counties and now will be served by the Lewiston office, which also serves Latah and Nez Perce counties. Rural Development provides grants and loans for economic development and business opportunities in rural communities and administers programs for rural housing. More information is at www.rurdev.usda.gov/id.
- The Idaho Department of Labor office in Grangeville and a committee of local business people sponsored a seminar on preventing drug use in the workplace in March. Jack Smith, an internationally credentialed

counselor with Journey Counseling and Consulting in Grangeville, told business owners how important it is to have clearly established policies and procedures and to provide employee training to turn a business into a drug-free workplace. Trudy Johnson of Bennett Forest Industries and Katy Eimers of Syringa Hospital and Clinics reported on the policies and procedures that have worked at their businesses.

LATAH COUNTY

- The University of Idaho recently selected Jack McIver, an internationally known physicist with expertise in laser technology, to serve as the vice president for research. McIver has been serving as interim vice president for research and economic development at the University of New Mexico. The vice president for research oversees all policies and procedures related to research, transfer of university developed technology to the private sector, economic development and regulatory compliance. In addition to the research done on campus in Moscow, the university also runs research institutes throughout the state. The university's research budget exceeds \$100 million a year and includes:
 - Biomedical and molecular biology research.
 - Agricultural and natural resources, plant, animal and fisheries research.
 - Environmental and ecological research.
 - Energy and water resources research.
 - Bioremediation and subsurface science research.
 - Nanotechnology and material sciences research.
 - Educational program design and assessment research.
- Schweitzer Engineering Laboratories, which is the second largest employer in Whitman County, Wash., after Washington State University, plans to get much larger. It recently began hiring more than 300 new employees for its Pullman headquarters. Schweitzer is filling engineering, marketing, manufacturing, technician and administration jobs as it expands into new markets around the globe. Schweitzer designs and makes products for power system protection, monitoring control, automation and metering. The rapid growth of the electric power industry in China, India and other developing economies is a major reason for the expansion, which included doubling the size of its plant last year. It employs about 1,100 workers.

NEZ PERCE AND ASOTIN COUNTIES

- The presidents of the University of Idaho, Washington State University, Lewis-Clark State College, North Idaho College and Northwest Indian College met in Spalding, a few miles east of Lewiston, to sign an agreement to increase information-sharing between the schools and to work on increasing recruitment and retention of American Indians. Members of the

Nez Perce, Coeur d'Alene and Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Reservation attended the March 24 signing. Their tribal members will not be the only students to benefit from the agreement, which is intended to help all American Indian students. The schools may create pre-college workshops for American Indian students and will provide other ways of encouraging them to attend and stay in college. The schools intend to enter more collaborative arrangements such as the Nez Perce language classes at Lewis-Clark, which teach students at the University of Idaho and Washington State via videoconference. Northwest Indian College students at branch sites in Lapwai and Kamiah already take many classes via video conference from the college's main campus in Bellingham, Wash.

- The federal Economic Development Administration recently approved a \$1.94 million grant to build an industrial park at the Lewiston-Nez Perce County Regional Airport. The grant is the final piece of a \$3.2 million package put together by the Clearwater Economic Development Association, the economic development organization serving north central Idaho. The package includes a \$500,000 Rural Community Block Grant, a pledge of \$225,000 from Leading Edge Aviation, a \$476,000 contribution of cash and in-kind work from the city of Lewiston and \$91,000 of in-kind work from Nez Perce County. In addition, the Federal Aviation Administration is expected to provide money for taxiways and other airport improvements. Several businesses have expressed interest in locating at the industrial park to be built on the southern edge of the airport. At full build-out, the park is expected to create about 250 jobs. City and county officials praised the economic development association's role in obtaining the grants. Engineering work is under way, and the timetable for construction will be announced later.
- Bad weather across the United States temporarily reduced the demand for cedar products, prompting Potlatch Corp. to idle 32 workers at Lewiston Cedar Products for five days in mid-March. The crew makes siding, paneling and other items from cedar for high-end houses. Although the reduction in U.S. housing starts over the last two years has greatly reduced the demand for lumber, the market for cedar has remained strong. The relatively wealthy households using most of the cedar are not affected by the subprime mortgage crisis and concerns about declining employment and rising prices that are causing so much havoc in the lumber market.
- Potlatch's pulp, paper and consumer products divisions performed well in 2007. Demand and prices remained strong. Potlatch is successfully moving

sales away from large bulk rolls that have a relatively low profit margin to finished goods, which make more money.

- SkyWest has cut two flights a week in and out of Lewiston as a cost-saving measure. Delta Air Lines, which calls the shots on schedule changes, is reducing flights system-wide in order to reduce fuel costs. SkyWest eliminated a noon flight into Lewiston and back out of Salt Lake City every Tuesday and Saturday. SkyWest will continue to offer those flights in the morning and at night as they did before.
- The Idaho Housing and Finance Association recently opened the Tullamore Apartments, an apartment complex for low-income seniors. The 48 one- and two-bedroom units on Bryden Avenue in Lewiston were filled rapidly, indicating the need for affordable housing for seniors. The complex was built by Thomas Development Co. of Lewiston.

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SOUTHWESTERN IDAHO

Ada, Adams, Boise, Canyon, Elmore, Gem, Owyhee, Payette, Valley & Washington counties

AREA DEVELOPMENTS

- The College of Southern Idaho in Twin Falls is talking with the new College of Western Idaho about over-seeing its programs while the accreditation process is under way. The College of Southern Idaho's board will review a proposed agreement in April. Accreditation is necessary for students to qualify for financial aid and be able to transfer academic credits to other schools. The process could take up to seven years. The College of Western Idaho has delayed its opening until January 2009. It is expecting 2,500 students.
- The Bayer CropScience production facility located in Marsing has been purchased by California-based American Vanguard. Bayer makes products that are used in chemical applications to field crop. American Vanguard has a product line of over 30 insecticides, fungicides and herbicides. American acquires chemical products from larger companies that don't view these products as going to larger markets.
- Boise Cascade, owned by private equity firm Madison Dearborn Partners since 2004 has again sold some of itself. Aldabra 2 Acquisition Corp. recently purchased the packaging and paper divisions and re-named the company Boise Inc. Boise Inc. is made up of five paper mills, five corrugated products plants, a corrugated sheet plant and two distribution facilities. All told the new company has approximately 775 em-

February 2008 Seasonally Adjusted Labor Force Figures for Southwestern Idaho Counties

County	Civilian Labor Force	Number Unem-ployed	Percent Unem-ployed	Number Em-ployed
Ada	196,522	4,973	2.5	191,550
Adams	2,182	141	6.5	2,040
Boise	3,756	144	3.8	3,612
Canyon	83,838	2,742	3.3	81,096
Elmore	11,088	378	3.4	10,710
Gem	7,377	297	4.0	7,080
Owyhee	4,725	88	1.9	4,637
Payette	10,540	395	3.7	10,145
Valley	5,295	232	4.4	5,063
Washing-ton	4,981	156	3.1	4,825
Statewide	755,210	21,518	2.8	733,692

ployees located in Boise, Nampa and Burley. Aldabra paid \$1.6 billion for the company.

- Blackhawk Products Group in Meridian has announced plans to nearly double its work force of 82 employees over the next year. Blackhawk, based in Virginia, manufactures over 3,000 products including rifle stocks, holsters, gun cases and a variety of clothing and protective gear for military, police and outdoor enthusiasts. Blackhawk's long term plans include hiring of up to 250 workers for production, warehousing and administrative jobs. Blackhawk also has facilities in Bozeman, Mont., which employs about 80 people; Southport, N. Car., with 20 people and Norfolk, Va. with 100 people. Most of Blackhawk's sales staff is located in Virginia. While the company makes some products overseas, it has committed to its United States operations because it can better monitor quality and response times to customers.
- Downtown Boise developer Mark Rivers will be opening the Boise WaterCooler in the old Boise Heating & Cooling building on the corner of 14th and Idaho streets in mid-April. The Boise WaterCooler is a business incubator similar to Boise State University's Technical and Entrepreneurial Center located in Nampa. The university facility assists small businesses with writing business plans, helps startups acquire capital and provides a wide variety of other services. The Boise WaterCooler will have enough space for eight small businesses with meeting rooms available as well. The Boise WaterCooler will be targeting industries such as software development, multimedia filmmaking, green technologies and communication and marketing. Boise State's business center is currently helping 30 companies.

VALLEY COUNTY

- Tamarack Resort, whose majority owners recently filed for bankruptcy, is now being sued by Credit

Suisse for the money borrowed to develop the resort. Credit Suisse is trying to foreclose on the resort to recover over \$260 million that Tamarack owes in unpaid loans and interest. The majority owners secured the loan from Credit Suisse using their stakes in the resort as collateral. Tamarack continues to seek additional funding and is considering selling the resort.

PAYETTE COUNTY

- The Payette School District is in a long-term student enrollment decline. Despite the county's increasing population over the last six years, school enrollment is down 14.1 percent since 2001. Part of this decline is attributed to smaller kindergarten classes. A reason for population growth while school district enrollments decline is a high percentage of new residents being retirees without children and a lack of high-paying jobs that would allow families to live within the Payette School District.

ADAMS COUNTY

- Voters in the New Meadows School District recently approved the school plant facility levy, which is applied to residents' property taxes, for 10 more years. Funds from the levy will be used for maintenance and upgrades of buildings and other district facilities.

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SOUTH CENTRAL IDAHO

Blaine, Camas, Cassia, Gooding, Jerome, Lincoln, Minidoka and Twin Falls counties

TWIN FALLS/JEROME

- Independent Meat Co., a long-time member of the Twin Falls business community, is expanding and adding as many as 15 jobs. A new contract with mainland China distributors prompted the 3,000-square-foot addition. "Production is estimated to almost double while energy and water usage will shrink by 30 percent," according to Manager Patrick Florence. He said that both overseas and domestic sales are increasing. Rising affluence in a number of countries due at least partially to outsourcing by many U.S. companies is responsible for boosting foreign meat consumption. Although these wages remain low by U.S. standards, they are boosting the standard of living and allowing for a higher quality diet. The supply and price of wheat and corn has also been affected as demand increases significantly in these countries.
- The city of Buhl has been awarded a \$280,000 grant to improve its water and wastewater systems. The

grant was included in a congressional appropriation signed by President George W. Bush.

- WP Taxi Services is operating in the Buhl area, providing a service that will become increasingly important as the population ages—delivering people and goods. The service is flexible as advertised. The company will wait for shoppers, pick up prescriptions, deliver packages, go out of town round trip or one way, and it offers a senior discount. For the two owners, "have van, will travel" is their motto.
- Buhl voters defeated a \$600,000 supplemental levy for upgrades and repairs to current school facilities. Only 30 percent of the voters supported the levy.
- A middle-eastern flavor will soon hit the Jerome area. The Mansour family is opening its second restaurant in Jerome. The Mansour's first was opened in March in Twin Falls – Blue Lakes Twin Burger Kabob – and the second opens soon in downtown Twin Falls. They have an interesting mix of dishes that may be unfamiliar to some –tabouli, falafels, hummus, tikka beef and chicken, kofta beef and lamb, and jajeek. The Mansours expect to hire 15 employees over time.

MINI-CASSIA

- Carport manufacturer Coast-to-Coast is adding 900 square feet to its plant on Highway 30. This will allow for seven new offices and will create seven support staff jobs.
- Pacific Ethanol, on the verge of officially brewing its first gallon of fuel, has reached an agreement with the city of Burley on water usage. The company will pay higher than residential rates for access to up to 1 million gallons of water per day – enough to irrigate 215 acres of farm land, according to City Administrator Mark Mitton. The company has intentions of using only 200,000 gallons of water daily over the 20-year contract for the \$120 million plant.
- Confined animal feeding operations continue to be approved in Cassia County, providing 500 dairy jobs at an average wage of \$12 per hour. The Idaho Department of Agriculture estimated in July 2006 that Cassia County had just over 63,000 cows, about 10 percent of statewide herd. Of the state's nearly 700 milk producers, 400 have fewer than 500 cows and almost 300 have fewer than 200 animals. A 7,500 animal dairy was approved in the Jackson area for East Ridge Milk. This will be located next to an existing dairy of about the same size. Objections to the applications continue based on environmental concerns and odor problems.
- High Desert Milk will be processing milk from local dairies into powdered milk this summer for distribution around the world. With a \$350,000 state grant

approved by Gov. C.L. "Butch" Otter, Burley's infrastructure will be extended to the High Desert operation off Highway 30, creating about 40 new jobs.

- With all the growth in the Mini-Cassia area, the residents are seeing an influx of spas and salons designed to relax and inspire. The latest is Sweet Escapes, which offers tanning, facials, nails and hair design. Sweet Escapes has five employees.
- Genesis Grouping has consolidated its dairy service and supply operations from Rupert, Buhl and Jerome to a new headquarters in a 10,000-square-foot building bought from the city of Burley. Some staff have relocated to Burley, and the company plans on hiring in the future. The renovated building will feature a show room, parts room and training area. The company specializes in dairy equipment and monitoring systems that allow the producer to ensure the milk temperature is within proper parameters. The company currently has 16 employees and is considered high-tech in the dairy industry.
- Motion Towing & Storage in Burley is expanding to include an enclosed 30-unit recreational vehicle storage facility and a larger repair shop. The Whitehead family, which owns the business, employs 25.
- The Martins, current owners of E-Z Money Pawn and E-Z Money Auto in Burley, are opening an RV sales and repair shop and an RV and truck accessory shop. The new businesses also have additional space for lease.

BLAINE COUNTY

- Idaho Power will add a new 138,000 kilovolt power line between Hailey and Ketchum over the next five years. It is part of a package of electrical service improvements recommended by a Community Advisory Committee to meet the needs of Blaine County customers in the next 20 years. The advisory committee outlined a plan costing \$78 million in current dollars for three new lines and a new substation. The biggest controversy is whether to install the lines underground, which is more aesthetically pleasing but costs 10 times more.
- The Friedman Memorial Airport closed for a week due to the mountains of snow piled up to 25 feet high around the airport. The snow reduced the width of runways for long-winged commercial and corporate jets and covered signage and lights critical to safe takeoffs and landings. The airport is using excavation equipment and trucks to remove the snow.
- St. Luke's Magic Valley Regional Medical Center has acquired land for a new facility called St. Luke's Clinic. It will combine the Wood River Family Medicine clinic and St. Luke's Center for Community Health with an office for St. Luke's Idaho Elk's Reha-

bilitation Services, physicians' offices and conference rooms. The clinic will be located west of the Friedman Memorial Airport parking lot. Construction of the 30,000-square-foot, two-story building will start later this summer at an estimated cost of \$11.4 million. St. Luke's anticipates the clinic will be ready for occupancy by spring of 2010.

- The Sun Valley Resort, owned by the Sinclair Co., has reported skier counts for the 2007-2008 year were up from 2006-2007 when snow conditions were dismal. Through February, the season's count was 286,599 compared to 271,598 year earlier, an increase of 5.5 percent. Jack Sibbach, marketing director, said the downturn in the economy has affected the bottom line although the season performed fairly well. The resort has offered incentives including \$29 lift tickets for students and faculty and free passes for children with every adult ticket if the family would stay at the lodge, the inn or associated condo.

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SOUTHEASTERN IDAHO

Bannock, Bear Lake, Bingham, Caribou, Franklin, Oneida & Power counties

AREA INTERESTS

- Southeastern Idaho, already the site for two proposed large electrical transmission lines, is now being considered for a large natural gas pipeline. Ruby Pipeline Co., a subsidiary of El Paso Corp., is proposing a 680-mile natural gas line from Opal Hub, Wyo., to Malin, Ore. Two routes are possible. The northern route would cross the southern part of Bear Lake and Franklin counties and the southeastern corner of Oneida County. The southern alternative bypasses Idaho entirely. The northern route would be about two miles north of Paris and travel southwesterly to about half way between Dayton and Weston, then south into the southeastern corner of Oneida County and on into Utah. Regardless of the route chosen, construction of the 42-inch pipeline, which will carry between 1.2 and 2.0 billion cubic feet of natural gas a day, is expected to begin in late spring 2010. At that time the company will hire six crews to build the pipeline so it can transport natural gas in early 2011. The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission requests comments be filed on its Web site at www.ferc.gov. Additional information and contact information is also available at www.rubypipeline.com.
- The March 20th edition of Outdoor Life listed Pocatello as the fifth best place in the U.S. for hunters

and anglers, largely because of its proximity to legendary trout fishing, high-country elk and trophy mule deer. Other factors included culture, crime rate, quality of education, commute times and affordability of housing. Complementing that ranking was Forbes magazine listing Pocatello the 22nd Best Small Places for Business and Careers in the United States. The listing can be reviewed on line at www.forbes.com. This recognition affects the entire region. There is a great deal of commuting between counties, the work forces are similar and the attributes listed by these magazines apply to all parts of southeastern Idaho.

BANNOCK COUNTY

- Nordic Windpower Ltd., a wind-turbine manufacturer based in Sweden, announced plans to locate a manufacturing plant in Pocatello, initially in a building at the Gateway Industrial Park. It expects to hire 160 workers within the next couple of years, providing the demand for energy from wind power continues to grow.
- Hoku Scientific has been issued building permits for a \$400 million plant in Pocatello that is nearly double the original size to accommodate greater than expected demand for the polysilicon it will produce. Hoku has raised \$25 million through sales of 2.9 million shares of common stock to several institutional investors and a subsidiary of Suntech Power Holding Co.
- AMIS Semiconductor and AMIS Holdings were acquired by ON Semiconductor on March 12. ON reportedly intends to cut the Pocatello payroll by 75 mostly duplicative administrative positions. One of the fabricating operations will be phased out over the next 18 to 24 months at a cost of another 150 jobs. But the fabricating unit known as Fab 10 will likely remain part of ON Semiconductor for some time.
- Gem State Staffing, a full-service temporary staffing business, opened an office in Pocatello with three full-time staff.
- Salt Lake City based developers are investigating the feasibility of a large planned community in southern Bannock County. The initial estimate is for 5,000 homes. Many issues are still to be resolved before any firm decisions are made.
- After many months of speculation, Costco Wholesale submitted building plans to the city of Pocatello for a \$17.8 million, 150,000-square-foot building and a separate fueling station.

BEAR LAKE COUNTY

- County representatives continue to evaluate development plans for the Black Bear Mountain Resort,

which includes 1,566 housing units. There is a wide range of interest in such things as road construction, water mitigation and run-off, landscaping, the impact on wildlife, fire control and affordable housing. Phased development is planned and public concerns will be addressed when the first application for a preliminary plat is submitted.

- Montpelier City Council members are studying a proposal from Chris Henderson for a bioenergy plant to replace the lagoon system. If the council believe the idea merits further consideration, it is likely a feasibility study will be authorized. Such a study is expected to cost about \$20,000.

BINGHAM COUNTY

- Ridgeline Energy has refiled its application for the special use permit to develop a wind farm with 150 wind turbines on 20,000 acres of mostly private property in the hills east of Blackfoot. If the project is approved, construction would begin in 2009. According to Ridgeline representatives, the farm could generate up to 450 megawatts of power. One megawatt provides enough power for up to 650 homes.

FRANKLIN COUNTY

- A consortium representing Franklin, Oneida, Bear Lake and Caribou counties in Idaho and Box Elder, Cache and Rich counties in Utah has been formed to foster economic development through promotion and stewardship of resources unique to the region. The organization is the Bear River Heritage Area. Among activities planned for this summer is a barn stabilization project. The old Hull barn in Whitney has been identified as the primary project, but it is contingent on securing sufficient funding.

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EAST CENTRAL IDAHO

Bonneville, Butte, Clark, Custer, Fremont, Jefferson, Lemhi, Madison & Teton counties

BONNEVILLE COUNTY

- Two tax incentives signed by Gov. C.L. "Butch" Otter keep Idaho Falls in the running for a uranium enrichment plant. One allows sales tax exemptions on the purchase of equipment used to process materials needed in fuel production and the other caps property tax assessments at \$400 million for companies that invest \$1 billion in Idaho over a seven-year period. The two are great incentives for Areva Inc., a French-owned company that plans to start building a \$2 billion facility in 2010. Bonneville County is still one of five sites in the running, and the tax legisla-

tion was vital to keeping its chances alive. Lobbying efforts, community and state support and key legislators resulted in quick passage.

- The Hilton Garden Inn in Idaho Falls opened March 13 with a grand opening still to come. The \$14 million facility on the Snake River was under construction for almost two years. The Pavilion with the restaurant and lounge are near the front; meeting rooms and a large patio face the river. The hotel has 119 rooms, including seven suites.

FREMONT COUNTY

- Fremont County installed a new mapping program to track cell and landline calls with pinpoint accuracy. The \$70,000 system allows dispatchers to show the fastest routes to the caller's location and to mark controlled burn areas so they're not confused with uncontrolled burns or wildfires. Tracking moving cell phones is another plus. The county is confident that the system will help save lives as long as the cell phones can get service. Either way, with the county pulling in so many recreationists for the sand dunes, state parks or snow dog derbies, emergency care can now respond faster and with precision as soon as a call gets through.

LEMHI COUNTY

- Salmon will host its first Salmon Marathon this September thanks to avid runner and organizer Kathy Gatens. She has been running marathons for 11 years and hopes that hosting a Boston Marathon qualifier in the picturesque town will bring in 250

runners. Other support from the area includes the Backcountry Horsemen, a western horse group to be posted between aid stations. Profits from the marathon will be dedicated to the Whitewater Therapeutic and Recreational Riding Association of which Gatens is director. The non-profit association offers equine experiences to the disabled, elderly and at-risk youths. More information is available at www.salmonmarathon.com.

MADISON COUNTY

- Rexburg ranked 43rd in the Top 200 Hunting and Fishing towns in the April 2008 edition of Outdoor Life. The magazine spent months evaluating towns throughout the United States on world-class hunting and fishing, easy access to public lands and water and vibrant economies that remained affordable and hospitable. Author Andrew McKean explains that these are places that exist in every state. They are towns that you can walk out your back door with a shotgun or fly rod and enjoy "paradise" within sight of the municipal water tower. Besides being designated as America's Family Community, Rexburg touts itself as being a gateway to some of the best hunting and fishing with plenty of outdoor recreation, two national parks, publicly owned desert playground and national forest nearby. Lewiston ranked second and Pocatello ranked fifth in the same list.

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Starting A Business In Idaho is a booklet that provides Idaho entrepreneurs and new businesses with information essential to begin successful operations. It highlights the registration process and the regulatory issues new businesses encounter and includes a directory of organizations specializing in business start-up assistance. It is available online in English and Spanish at Imi.idaho.gov or idahoworks.com and at the Idaho Department of Commerce, (208) 334-2470.



"I am personally committed to making Idaho the best place in America to establish a business. Idaho is vitally interested in your success and is ready to help make your business thrive with our outstanding support services."

Butch Otter



State of Idaho Data – February 2008

February 2008 Labor Force (preliminary) compared to January 2007 data (continued on page XX)

Seasonally Adjusted Data	Feb 2008				Feb 2007			
	Civilian Labor Force	# Unem- ployed	% Unem- ployed	Total Employment	Civilian Labor Force	# Unem- ployed	% Unem- ployed	Total Employment
STATE OF IDAHO	755,210	21,518	2.8	733,692	748,956	21,016	2.8	727,940
COUNTIES								
ADA (1)	196,522	4,973	2.5	191,550	195,770	4,277	2.2	191,493
ADAMS	2,182	141	6.5	2,040	2,287	116	5.1	2,171
BANNOCK (8)	39,642	1,067	2.7	38,575	40,822	1,109	2.7	39,713
BEAR LAKE	3,114	59	1.9	3,054	2,995	57	1.9	2,939
BENEWAH	3,886	246	6.3	3,640	3,889	250	6.4	3,639
BINGHAM	21,604	525	2.4	21,079	21,502	560	2.6	20,941
BLAINE (5)	13,809	303	2.2	13,505	13,726	316	2.3	13,410
BOISE (1)	3,756	144	3.8	3,612	3,742	132	3.5	3,610
BONNER	20,691	910	4.4	19,781	20,276	803	4.0	19,472
BONNEVILLE (6)	51,075	1,064	2.1	50,011	50,294	1,104	2.2	49,189
BOUNDARY	3,961	216	5.4	3,746	4,063	244	6.0	3,819
BUTTE	2,118	38	1.8	2,080	1,875	41	2.2	1,834
CAMAS (5)	619	20	3.2	599	608	13	2.1	595
CANYON (1)	83,838	2,742	3.3	81,096	83,705	2,634	3.1	81,071
CARIBOU	3,295	72	2.2	3,224	3,319	98	2.9	3,221
CASSIA (2)	9,762	242	2.5	9,520	10,236	281	2.7	9,954
CLARK	519	11	2.0	509	510	9	1.8	501
CLEARWATER	3,191	226	7.1	2,965	3,263	239	7.3	3,024
CUSTER	2,412	76	3.1	2,336	2,499	72	2.9	2,426
ELMORE	11,088	378	3.4	10,710	11,036	379	3.4	10,657
FRANKLIN	6,498	121	1.9	6,377	6,340	124	2.0	6,216
FREMONT (9)	6,374	176	2.8	6,198	6,154	197	3.2	5,957
GEM (1)	7,377	297	4.0	7,080	7,355	277	3.8	7,078
GOODING	8,479	206	2.4	8,273	8,689	208	2.4	8,481
IDAHO	7,129	318	4.5	6,812	7,039	335	4.8	6,703
JEFFERSON (6)	11,304	253	2.2	11,051	11,151	280	2.5	10,870
JEROME (10)	10,077	259	2.6	9,818	10,026	263	2.6	9,762
KOOTENAI (3)	71,623	2,374	3.3	69,249	67,637	2,169	3.2	65,468
LATAH	16,941	434	2.6	16,508	16,608	476	2.9	16,132
LEMHI	3,834	151	3.9	3,683	3,855	176	4.6	3,679
LEWIS (4)	1,761	38	2.2	1,723	1,736	41	2.4	1,695
LINCOLN	2,425	104	4.3	2,321	2,524	101	4.0	2,423
MADISON (9)	16,034	339	2.1	15,695	15,451	366	2.4	15,085
MINIDOKA (2)	9,072	244	2.7	8,827	9,577	347	3.6	9,230
NEZ PERCE (7)	18,852	495	2.6	18,356	18,764	470	2.5	18,295
ONEIDA	2,384	47	2.0	2,337	2,272	41	1.8	2,230
OWYHEE (1)	4,725	88	1.9	4,637	4,719	84	1.8	4,635
PAYETTE	10,540	395	3.7	10,145	10,486	421	4.0	10,064
POWER (8)	3,731	102	2.7	3,629	3,854	118	3.1	3,736
SHOSHONE	5,597	264	4.7	5,332	5,760	303	5.3	5,457
TETON	5,293	81	1.5	5,212	4,876	79	1.6	4,797
TWIN FALLS (10)	37,799	890	2.4	36,909	37,695	997	2.6	36,698
VALLEY	5,295	232	4.4	5,063	4,993	199	4.0	4,794
WASHINGTON	4,981	156	3.1	4,825	4,982	208	4.2	4,774
ASOTIN WA (7)	10,529	795	7.6	9,734	10,489	694	6.6	9,796

* In thousands

February 2008 Labor Force (preliminary) compared to February 2007 data (continued from page 21)

Seasonally Adjusted Data	Feb 2008				Feb 2007			
	Civilian Labor Force	# Unem- ployed	% Unem- ployed	Total Employment	Civilian Labor Force	# Unem- ployed	% Unem- ployed	Total Employment
LABOR MARKET AREAS								
BOISE CITY-NAMPA MSA (1)	296,218	8,245	2.8	287,974	295,291	7,403	2.5	287,887
BURLEY MicSA (2)	18,834	487	2.6	18,347	19,812	628	3.2	19,184
COEUR D'ALENE MSA (3)	71,623	2,374	3.3	69,249	67,637	2,169	3.2	65,468
GRANGEVILLE SLMA (4)	8,890	356	4.0	8,534	8,775	377	4.3	8,398
HAILEY SLMA (5)	14,428	323	2.2	14,104	14,333	328	2.3	14,005
IDAHO FALLS MSA (6)	62,380	1,317	2.1	61,063	61,444	1,385	2.3	60,059
LEWISTON MSA (7)	29,381	1,291	4.4	28,090	29,254	1,164	4.0	28,090
POCATELLO MSA (8)	43,373	1,169	2.7	42,204	44,676	1,227	2.7	43,450
REXBURG MicSA (9)	22,408	515	2.3	21,893	21,605	563	2.6	21,042
TWIN FALLS MicSA (10)	47,876	1,149	2.4	46,727	47,721	1,261	2.6	46,460
CITIES								
BOISE	111,519	3,115	2.8	108,404	111,385	2,641	2.4	108,744
CALDWELL	17,157	707	4.1	16,450	17,185	683	4.0	16,502
COEUR D' ALENE	23,172	838	3.6	22,334	21,904	718	3.3	21,186
IDAHO FALLS	28,139	666	2.4	27,473	27,782	668	2.4	27,114
LEWISTON	15,662	436	2.8	15,225	15,637	411	2.6	15,226
MERIDIAN	31,538	863	2.7	30,675	31,473	702	2.2	30,771
NAMPA	36,257	1,290	3.6	34,967	36,260	1,185	3.3	35,075
POCATELLO	27,570	779	2.8	26,791	28,431	754	2.7	27,676
TWIN FALLS	21,455	531	2.5	20,924	21,443	567	2.6	20,876
United States*	153,374	7,381	4.8	145,993	152,725	6,837	4.5	145,888

* In thousands

SOURCE: Idaho Department of Labor, Research & Analysis and Public Affairs

State of Idaho Data

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

BY PLACE OF WORK	Feb 2008*	Jan 2008	Feb 2007	Last Month	Last Year
Nonfarm Payroll Jobs**	637,700	636,400	636,400	0.2	0.2
GOODS-PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	112,300	114,400	118,100	-1.8	-4.9
Natural Resources & Mining	4,300	4,300	4,000	0.0	7.5
Logging	1,600	1,700	1,700	-5.9	-5.9
Mining	2,700	2,600	2,300	3.8	17.4
Metal Ore Mining	1,000	1,000	900	0.0	11.1
Construction	45,100	46,300	47,900	-2.6	-5.8
Manufacturing	62,900	63,800	66,200	-1.4	-5.0
Durable Goods	40,000	40,800	42,900	-2.0	-6.8
Wood Product Manufacturing	7,100	7,200	7,800	-1.4	-9.0
Sawmills & Wood Preservation	2,100	2,100	2,500	0.0	-16.0
Veneer & Engineered Products	1,400	1,400	1,500	0.0	-6.7
Other Wood Product Manufacturing	3,600	3,700	3,800	-2.7	-5.3
Fabricated Metal Product Manufacturing	4,700	4,700	4,600	0.0	2.2
Machinery Manufacturing	3,000	3,000	2,900	0.0	3.4
Computer & Electronic Product Manufacturing	14,500	14,800	17,100	-2.0	-15.2
Transportation Equipment Manufacturing	3,600	3,600	3,400	0.0	5.9
Other Durable Goods	7,100	7,500	7,100	-5.3	0.0
Nondurable Goods	22,900	23,000	23,300	-0.4	-1.7
Food Manufacturing	14,400	14,400	14,700	0.0	-2.0
Fruits & Vegetable Preserving & Specialty	7,200	7,200	7,300	0.0	-1.4
Paper Manufacturing	1,700	1,700	1,700	0.0	0.0
Printing & Related Support Activities	1,900	1,900	1,900	0.0	0.0
Chemical Manufacturing	2,300	2,300	2,200	0.0	4.5
Other Nondurable Goods	2,600	2,700	2,800	-3.7	-7.1
SERVICE-PROVIDING INDUSTRIES	525,400	522,000	518,300	0.7	1.4
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	128,000	129,100	128,800	-0.9	-0.6
Trade	107,500	108,700	108,100	-1.1	-0.6
Wholesale Trade	27,300	27,500	27,500	-0.7	-0.7
Wholesalers, Durable Goods	12,500	12,600	12,700	-0.8	-1.6
Wholesalers, Nondurable Goods	11,300	11,400	11,900	-0.9	-5.0
Retail Trade	80,200	81,200	80,600	-1.2	-0.5
Motor Vehicle and Parts Dealers	12,500	12,500	12,100	0.0	3.3
Building Material and Garden Equipment	8,600	8,600	9,000	0.0	-4.4
Food & Beverage Stores	12,100	12,200	12,500	-0.8	-3.2
General Merchandise Stores	16,600	17,000	16,400	-2.4	1.2
Transportation, Warehousing, & Utilities	20,500	20,400	20,700	0.5	-1.0
Utilities	2,000	2,000	2,000	0.0	0.0
Transportation & Warehousing	18,500	18,400	18,700	0.5	-1.1
Rail Transportation	1,300	1,300	1,300	0.0	0.0
Truck Transportation	9,300	9,300	9,300	0.0	0.0
Information	10,900	10,900	10,600	0.0	2.8
Telecommunications	4,000	4,000	4,000	0.0	0.0
Financial Activities	31,600	31,600	32,100	0.0	-1.6
Finance & Insurance	23,400	23,400	23,600	0.0	-0.8
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	8,200	8,200	8,500	0.0	-3.5
Professional & Business Services	78,700	78,200	78,900	0.6	-0.3
Professional, Scientific, & Technical	33,800	33,600	33,300	0.6	1.5
Scientific Research & Development	7,700	7,600	5,500	1.3	40.0
Management of Companies & Enterprises	7,600	7,500	7,800	1.3	-2.6
Administrative & Support & Waste Management	37,300	37,100	37,800	0.5	-1.3
Administrative & Support Services	36,200	35,600	35,700	1.7	1.4
Educational & Health Services	75,000	74,100	72,700	1.2	3.2
Educational Services	8,600	7,900	8,700	8.9	-1.1
Health Care & Social Assistance	66,400	66,200	64,000	0.3	3.8
Hospitals	16,300	16,200	15,200	0.6	7.2
Leisure & Hospitality	61,500	61,300	59,300	0.3	3.7
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	8,600	8,500	8,100	1.2	6.2
Accommodation & Food Services	52,900	52,800	51,200	0.2	3.3
Accommodation	9,200	9,100	8,200	1.1	12.2
Food Services & Drinking Places	43,700	43,700	43,000	0.0	1.6
Other Services	19,400	19,200	18,900	1.0	2.6
Total Government	120,300	117,600	117,000	2.3	2.8
Federal Government	12,100	12,000	11,900	0.8	1.7
State & Local Government	108,200	105,600	105,100	2.5	2.9
State Government	29,800	28,500	29,800	4.6	0.0
State Government Education	14,600	12,700	14,900	15.0	-2.0
State Government Administration	15,200	15,800	14,900	-3.8	2.0
Local Government	78,400	77,100	75,300	1.7	4.1
Local Government Education	41,500	40,600	40,900	2.2	1.5
Local Government Administration	33,600	33,200	31,300	1.2	7.3
Local Government Tribes	3,300	3,300	3,100	0.0	6.5

*Preliminary Estimate ** Estimates include all full or part time wage and salary workers who worked or received pay in the following industry groups during the pay period ending nearest the 12th of the month.

State of Idaho Data

State Economic Indicators

				% Change From	
	Feb 2008	Jan 2008	Feb 2007	Last Month	Last Year
IDAHO LABOR FORCE ⁽¹⁾					
<i>Seasonally Adjusted</i>					
Civilian Labor Force	755,200	758,800	748,900	-0.5	0.8
Unemployment	21,500	21,100	21,000	1.9	2.4
Percent of Labor Force Unemployed	2.8	2.8	2.8		
Total Employment	733,700	737,700	727,900	-0.5	0.8
<i>Unadjusted</i>					
Civilian Labor Force	750,400	753,200	745,600	-0.4	0.6
Unemployment	28,900	29,700	27,300	-2.7	5.9
Percent of Labor Force Unemployed	3.9	3.9	3.7		
Total Employment	721,500	723,500	718,300	-0.3	0.4
U. S. UNEMPLOYMENT RATE ⁽²⁾	4.8	4.9	4.5		
U.S. CONSUMER PRICE INDEX ⁽²⁾					
Urban Wage Earners & Clerical Workers (CPI-W)	207.3	206.7	198.5	0.2	4.4
All Urban Consumer (CPI-U)	211.7	211.1	203.5	0.3	4.0
AGRICULTURE					
Agriculture Employment	35,410	34,960	35,580	1.3	-0.5
Operators	9,740	9,740	9,740	0.0	0.0
Unpaid Family	360	350	360	2.9	0.0
Hired Workers	25,310	24,870	25,480	1.8	-0.7
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE					
<i>Claims Activities</i>					
Initial Claims ⁽³⁾	10,604	14,568	7,885	-27.2	34.5
Weeks Claimed ⁽⁴⁾	103,394	102,499	76,514	0.9	35.1
<i>Benefit Payment Activities⁽⁵⁾</i>					
Weeks Compensated	90,760	100,424	66,633	-9.6	36.2
Total Benefit \$ Paid	23,968,191	26,180,014	16,233,431	-8.4	47.6
Average Weekly Benefit Amount	\$264.08	\$260.69	\$243.62	1.3	8.4
Covered Employers	51,533	51,482	50,359	0.1	2.3
Total Benefit \$ Paid During Last 12 Months ⁽⁴⁾	\$143,181,284	\$135,446,525	\$113,267,079	5.7	26.4

(1) Preliminary Estimate

(2) Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

(3) Includes all entitlements/programs on Intrastate and Interstate Agent, New, and Additional Claims

(4) Includes all entitlements/programs, Intrastate and Interstate Agent

(5) Includes all entitlements/programs, Total Liabile Activities

Panhandle Data – February 2008

Coeur d'Alene MSA Labor Force & Employment – Kootenai County

	Feb 2008*	Jan 2008	Feb 2007	% Change From	
				Last Month	Last Year
INDIVIDUALS BY PLACE OF RESIDENCE					
<i>Seasonally Adjusted</i>					
Civilian Labor Force	71,620	71,850	67,640	-0.3	5.9
Unemployed	2,370	2,540	2,170	-6.7	9.2
% of Labor Force Unemployed	3.3	3.5	3.2		
Total Employment	69,250	69,310	65,470	-0.1	5.8
<i>Unadjusted</i>					
Civilian Labor Force	71,320	71,750	67,420	-0.6	5.8
Unemployed	3,530	3,550	3,120	-0.6	13.1
% of Labor Force Unemployed	4.9	4.9	4.6		
Total Employment	67,790	68,200	64,300	-0.6	5.4
JOBS BY PLACE OF WORK					
Nonfarm Payroll Jobs** - NAICS	55,820	56,200	52,900	-0.7	5.5
<i>Goods-Producing Industries</i>	10,180	10,680	10,080	-4.7	1.0
Natural Resources & Mining	450	460	400	-2.2	12.5
Construction	5,010	5,460	5,000	-8.2	0.2
Manufacturing	4,720	4,760	4,680	-0.8	0.9
Wood Product Manufacturing	880	880	950	0.0	-7.4
Other Manufacturing	3,840	3,880	3,730	-1.0	2.9
<i>Service-Providing Industries</i>	45,640	45,520	43,820	0.3	4.2
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	10,910	10,970	10,330	-0.5	5.6
Wholesale Trade	1,620	1,610	1,520	0.6	6.6
Retail Trade	8,240	8,320	7,820	-1.0	5.4
Transportation, Warehousing & Utilities	1,050	1,040	1,000	1.0	5.0
Information	990	980	980	1.0	1.0
Financial Activities	3,050	3,030	2,910	0.7	4.8
Professional & Business Services	5,650	5,610	5,570	0.7	1.4
Educational & Health Services	5,840	5,790	5,580	0.9	4.7
Leisure & Hospitality	8,030	8,150	6,430	-1.5	24.9
Other Services	1,520	1,480	1,410	2.7	7.8
Government Education	3,800	3,530	3,730	7.6	1.9
Government Administration	5,020	5,130	5,140	-2.1	-2.3
Government Tribes	830	850	730	-2.4	13.7

* Preliminary estimate

**Full- or part-time jobs of people who worked for or received wages in the pay period including the 12th of the month

North Central Idaho Data – February 2008

Lewiston MSA Labor Force & Employment – Nez Perce County, Idaho, and Asotin County, Wash.

	Feb 2008*	Jan 2008	Feb 2007	% Change From	
				Last Month	Last Year
INDIVIDUALS BY PLACE OF RESIDENCE					
<i>Seasonally Adjusted</i>					
Civilian Labor Force	29,380	30,260	29,250	-2.9	0.4
Unemployment	1,290	1,130	1,160	14.2	11.2
% of Labor Force Unemployed	4.4	3.7	4.0		
Total Employment	28,090	29,130	28,090	-3.6	0.0
<i>Unadjusted</i>					
Civilian Labor Force	29,360	30,080	29,270	-2.4	0.3
Unemployment	1,430	1,360	1,280	5.1	11.7
% of Labor Force Unemployed	4.9	4.5	4.4		
Total Employment	27,930	28,720	27,990	-2.8	-0.2
JOBS BY PLACE OF WORK					
Nonfarm Payroll Jobs** - NAICS	26,570	26,840	26,770	-1.0	-0.7
<i>Goods-Producing Industries</i>	4,720	4,800	4,500	-1.7	4.9
Natural Resources & Mining	190	190	190	0.0	0.0
Construction	1,160	1,220	1,140	-4.9	1.8
Manufacturing	3,370	3,390	3,170	-0.6	6.3
Wood Product Manufacturing	580	590	580	-1.7	0.0
Paper Manufacturing	1,150	1,150	1,150	0.0	0.0
Other Manufacturing	1,640	1,650	1,440	-0.6	13.9
<i>Service-Providing Industries</i>	21,850	22,040	22,270	-0.9	-1.9
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	5,360	5,540	5,380	-3.2	-0.4
Wholesale Trade	620	620	680	0.0	-8.8
Retail Trade	3,550	3,700	3,510	-4.1	1.1
Utilities	90	90	90	0.0	0.0
Transportation & Warehousing	1,100	1,130	1,100	-2.7	0.0
Information	380	390	420	-2.6	-9.5
Financial Activities	1,770	1,740	2,100	1.7	-15.7
Professional & Business Services	1,340	1,380	1,520	-2.9	-11.8
Education & Health Services	4,120	4,290	4,250	-4.0	-3.1
Leisure & Hospitality	2,500	2,530	2,440	-1.2	2.5
Other Services	1,110	1,110	1,100	0.0	0.9
Government Education	2,670	2,370	2,520	12.7	6.0
Government Administration	1,900	2,040	1,850	-6.9	2.7
Government Tribes	700	650	690	7.7	1.4

*Preliminary Estimate

**Full- or part-time jobs of people who worked for or received wages in the pay period including the 12th of the month

Southwestern Idaho Data – February 2008

Boise City-Nampa MSA Labor Force & Employment – Ada, Canyon, Boise, Gem and Owyhee counties

	Feb 2008*	Jan 2008	Feb 2007	% Change	
				Last Month	Last Year
INDIVIDUALS BY PLACE OF RESIDENCE					
<i>Seasonally Adjusted</i>					
Civilian Labor Force	296,200	299,800	295,300	-1.2	0.3
Unemployment	8,200.0	8,000.0	7,400.0	2.5	10.8
% of Labor Force Unemployed	2.8	2.7	2.5		
Total Employment	288,000.0	291,800.0	287,900.0	-1.3	0.0
<i>Unadjusted</i>					
Civilian Labor Force	295,500	297,700	295,000	-0.7	0.2
Unemployment	10,600.0	11,500.0	9,200.0	-7.8	15.2
% of Labor Force Unemployed	3.6	3.9	3.1		
Total Employment	284,900.0	286,200.0	285,800.0	-0.5	-0.3
JOBS BY PLACE OF WORK					
Nonfarm Payroll Jobs**	269,900	270,900	270,500	-0.4	-0.2
GOODS-PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	49,200	51,100	54,300	-3.7	-9.4
<i>Natural Resources & Construction</i>	19,800	21,400	22,600	-7.5	-12.4
Construction	19,500	21,100	22,300	-7.6	-12.6
<i>Manufacturing</i>	29,400	29,700	31,700	-1.0	-7.3
Durable Goods	22,800	23,100	25,400	-1.3	-10.2
Wood Product Manufacturing	2,400	2,300	2,400	4.3	0.0
Fabricated Metal Products Mfg.	1,500	1,500	1,600	0.0	-6.3
Machinery Manufacturing	1,200	1,200	1,200	0.0	0.0
Computer & Electronic Manufacturing	12,800	13,000	15,300	-1.5	-16.3
Transportation Equipment Mfg.	2,300	2,200	2,400	4.5	-4.2
Other Durable Goods	2,600	2,900	2,500	-10.3	4.0
Nondurable Goods	6,600	6,600	6,300	0.0	4.8
Food Manufacturing	4,600	4,600	4,300	0.0	7.0
Printing & Related Support Activities	800	800	800	0.0	0.0
Other Nondurable Goods	1,200	1,200	1,200	0.0	0.0
SERVICE-PROVIDING INDUSTRIES	220,700	219,800	216,200	0.4	2.1
<i>Trade, Transportation, & Utilities</i>	52,600	53,200	52,700	-1.1	-0.2
Trade	44,400	45,100	45,100	-1.6	-1.6
Wholesale Trade	12,400	12,400	12,300	0.0	0.8
Wholesalers, Durable Goods	7,100	7,100	7,000	0.0	1.4
Wholesalers, Nondurable Goods	3,800	3,800	3,900	0.0	-2.6
Retail Trade	32,000	32,700	32,800	-2.1	-2.4
Food & Beverage Stores	4,300	4,300	4,600	0.0	-6.5
General Merchandise Stores	6,900	7,000	6,800	-1.4	1.5
All Other Retail Trade	20,800	21,400	21,400	-2.8	-2.8
Transportation, Warehousing, & Utilities	8,200	8,100	7,600	1.2	7.9
Utilities	700	700	700	0.0	0.0
Transportation & Warehousing	7,500	7,400	6,900	1.4	8.7
<i>Information</i>	4,900	4,900	4,500	0.0	8.9
Telecommunications	1,300	1,300	1,400	0.0	-7.1
<i>Financial Activities</i>	13,900	13,900	14,300	0.0	-2.8
Finance & Insurance	10,200	10,200	10,100	0.0	1.0
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	3,700	3,700	4,200	0.0	-11.9
<i>Professional & Business Services</i>	39,400	39,300	39,200	0.3	0.5
Professional, Scientific, & Technical	13,600	13,600	12,400	0.0	9.7
Management of Companies & Ent.	5,800	5,700	5,800	1.8	0.0
Administrative & Support & Waste Mgmt.	20,000	20,000	21,000	0.0	-4.8
<i>Educational & Health Services</i>	34,400	34,000	33,100	1.2	3.9
Educational Services	3,100	2,700	3,600	14.8	-13.9
Health Care & Social Assistance	31,300	31,300	29,500	0.0	6.1
Hospitals	10,000	10,000	9,400	0.0	6.4
<i>Leisure & Hospitality</i>	23,200	23,100	24,100	0.4	-3.7
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	2,400	2,300	3,200	4.3	-25.0
Accommodation & Food Services	20,800	20,800	20,900	0.0	-0.5
Accommodation	2,100	2,200	2,200	-4.5	-4.5
Food Services & Drinking Places	18,700	18,600	18,700	0.5	0.0
<i>Other Services</i>	8,200	8,100	7,000	1.2	17.1
Total Government	44,100	43,300	41,300	1.8	6.8
Federal Government	6,000	5,900	5,500	1.7	9.1
State & Local Government	38,100	37,400	35,800	1.9	6.4
State Government	13,700	13,500	13,500	1.5	1.5
State Government Education	5,000	5,000	4,800	0.0	4.2
State Government Administration	8,700	8,500	8,700	2.4	0.0
Local Government	24,400	23,900	22,300	2.1	9.4
Local Government Education	15,200	14,900	14,000	2.0	8.6
Local Government Administration	9200	9000	8300	2.2	10.8

* Preliminary Estimate

**Full- or part-time jobs of people who worked for or received wages in the pay period including the 12th of the month

South Central Idaho Data – February 2008

Twin Falls-Jerome MicSA Labor Force & Employment – Twin Falls and Jerome counties

	Feb 2008*	Jan 2008	Feb 2007	<u>% Change From</u>	
				Last Month	Last Year
INDIVIDUALS BY PLACE OF RESIDENCE					
<i>Seasonally Adjusted</i>					
Civilian Labor Force	48,000	47,880	47,520	0.3	1.0
Unemployment	1,090	1,150	1,250	-5.2	-12.8
% of Labor Force Unemployed	2.3	2.4	2.6		
Total Employment	46,910	46,730	46,270	0.4	1.4
<i>Unadjusted</i>					
Civilian Labor Force	48,020	47,890	47,810	0.3	0.4
Unemployment	1,560	1,520	1,770	2.6	-11.9
% of Labor Force Unemployed	3.3	3.2	3.7		
Total Employment	46,460	46,370	46,040	0.2	0.9
JOBS BY PLACE OF WORK					
Nonfarm Payroll Jobs**	37,910	37,910	37,530	0.0	1.0
<i>Goods-Providing Industries</i>	6,900	6,900	6,610	0.0	4.4
Natural Resources & Mining	30	30	20	0.0	50.0
Construction	2,040	2,040	2,080	0.0	-1.9
Manufacturing	4,830	4,830	4,510	0.0	7.1
Food Manufacturing	2,750	2,750	2,460	0.0	11.8
Other Manufacturing	2,080	2,080	2,050	0.0	1.5
<i>Service-Providing Industries</i>	31,010	31,010	30,920	0.0	0.3
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	10,020	10,020	10,050	0.0	-0.3
Wholesale Trade	1,820	1,820	1,780	0.0	2.2
Retail Trade	5,830	5,830	5,840	0.0	-0.2
Utilities	160	160	140	0.0	14.3
Transportation & Warehousing	2,210	2,210	2,290	0.0	-3.5
Information	720	710	670	1.4	7.5
Financial Activities	1,680	1,680	1,660	0.0	1.2
Professional & Business Services	4,260	4,270	4,220	-0.2	0.9
Educational & Health Services	5,080	5,080	4,920	0.0	3.3
Leisure & Hospitality	2,960	2,960	2,920	0.0	1.4
Other Services	1,200	1,200	1,380	0.0	-13.0
Government Education	3,030	3,030	3,120	0.0	-2.9
Government Administration	2,060	2,060	1,980	0.0	4.0

*Preliminary Estimate

**Full- or part-time jobs of people who worked for or received wages in the pay period including the 12th of the month

Southeastern Idaho Data — February 2008

Pocatello MSA Labor Force & Employment Bannock and Power counties

	Feb 2008*	Jan 2008	Feb 2007	<u>% Change From</u>	
				Last Month	Last Year
INDIVIDUALS BY PLACE OF RESIDENCE					
<i>Seasonally Adjusted</i>					
Civilian Labor Force	43,373	43,164	43,972	0.5	-1.4
Unemployment	1,169	1,115	1,209	4.8	-3.3
% of Labor Force Unemployed	2.7	2.6	2.7		
Total Employment	42,204	42,049	42,763	0.4	-1.3
<i>Unadjusted</i>					
Civilian Labor Force	43,339	43,099	43,972	0.6	-1.4
Unemployment	1,532	1,611	1,209	-4.9	26.7
% of Labor Force Unemployed	3.5	3.7	2.7		
Total Employment	41,807	41,488	42,763	0.8	-2.2
JOBS BY PLACE OF WORK					
Nonfarm Payroll Jobs** - NAICS	37,900	37,680	38,670	0.6	-2.0
<i>Goods-Producing Industries</i>	5,510	5,510	5,190	0.0	6.2
Natural Resources & Mining	30	20	30	50.0	0.0
Construction	1,650	1,640	1,780	0.6	-7.3
Manufacturing	3,830	3,850	3,380	-0.5	13.3
Food Manufacturing	1,350	1,350	1,250	0.0	8.0
Fabricated Metal Product Manufacturing	180	180	170	0.0	5.9
Machinery Manufacturing	100	100	70	0.0	42.9
Other Manufacturing	2,200	2,220	1,900	-0.9	15.8
<i>Service-Providing Industries</i>	32,390	32,170	33,480	0.7	-3.3
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	7,460	7,590	7,150	-1.7	4.3
Wholesale Trade	1,330	1,400	1,130	-5.0	17.7
Retail Trade	4,720	4,780	4,520	-1.3	4.4
Utilities	50	50	50	0.0	0.0
Transportation & Warehousing	1,360	1,360	1,450	0.0	-6.2
Information	840	790	780	6.3	7.7
Financial Activities	2,130	2,160	2,130	-1.4	0.0
Professional & Business Services	4,510	4,310	5,390	4.6	-16.3
Educational & Health Services	3,320	3,290	3,330	0.9	-0.3
Leisure & Hospitality	3,660	3,670	3,530	-0.3	3.7
Other Services	1,080	1,140	1,120	-5.3	-3.6
Government Education	6,250	5,830	6,090	7.2	2.6
Government Administration	3,140	3,390	3,960	-7.4	-20.7

*Preliminary Estimate

**Full- or part-time jobs of people who worked for or received wages in the pay period including the 12th of the month

East Central Idaho Data – February 2008

Idaho Falls MSA Labor Force & Employment – Bonneville and Jefferson counties

	Feb 2008*	Jan 2008	Feb 2007	% Change From	
				Last Month	Last Year
INDIVIDUALS BY PLACE OF RESIDENCE					
<i>Seasonally Adjusted</i>					
Civilian Labor Force	62,380	62,480	61,440	-0.2	1.5
Unemployment	1,320	1,240	1,380	6.5	-4.3
% of Labor Force Unemployed	2.1%	2.0%	2.3%		
Total Employment	61,060	61,240	60,060	-0.3	1.7
<i>Unadjusted</i>					
Civilian Labor Force	61,280	61,530	60,530	-0.4	1.2
Unemployment	1,730	1,700	1,760	1.8	-1.7
% of Labor Force Unemployed	2.8%	2.8%	2.9%		
Total Employment	59,540	59,830	58,770	-0.5	1.3
JOBS BY PLACE OF WORK					
Nonfarm Payroll Jobs** - NAICS	50,690	50,780	49,190	-0.2	3.0
<i>Goods-Producing Industries</i>	7,620	7,870	7,540	-3.2	1.1
Construction & Natural Resources	4,090	4,330	4,080	-5.5	0.2
Manufacturing	3,530	3,540	3,460	-0.3	2.0
Food Manufacturing	1,040	1,070	1,020	-2.8	2.0
Fabricated Metal Product Manufacturing	280	280	290	0.0	-3.4
Machinery Manufacturing	160	150	170	6.7	-5.9
Other Manufacturing	2,050	2,040	1,980	0.5	3.5
<i>Service-Providing Industries</i>	43,070	42,910	41,650	0.4	3.4
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	12,780	12,890	12,480	-0.9	2.4
Wholesale Trade	3,370	3,430	3,390	-1.7	-0.6
Retail Trade	7,580	7,620	7,410	-0.5	2.3
Utilities	60	60	60	0.0	0.0
Transportation	1,770	1,780	1,620	-0.6	9.3
Information	1,240	1,230	1,250	0.8	-0.8
Financial Activities	2,120	2,120	2,170	0.0	-2.3
Professional & Business Services	5,600	5,300	5,530	5.7	1.3
Educational & Health Services	6,860	7,380	7,080	-7.0	-3.1
Leisure & Hospitality	5,230	5,030	4,600	4.0	13.7
Other Services	2,140	1,960	1,930	9.2	10.9
Government Education	3,860	3,680	3,650	4.9	5.8
Government Administration	3,240	3,320	2,960	-2.4	9.5

*Preliminary Estimate

**Full- or part-time jobs of people who worked for or received wages in the pay period including the 12th of the month